

DDA Minutes
February 19, 2020
8:00 – 9:00 a.m.

DDA Members Present: Sarah Murphy Sam Burch Joe Clark

 Addison Lester Nancy Musselwhite

 Dan Vano Jamie Wyatt

Staff Present: Brian Wismer Joyce Waits

 Ray Gibson Mike Bush

Staff Absent: Julie Herbert

Call to Order:

Murphy called the February 19 meeting to order.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Lester and seconded by Burch to approve the January 15, 2020 meeting minutes.
Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Wyatt and seconded by Vano to approve the January 30 Called meeting minutes.
Motion carried unanimously.

DCA Monthly Report and Downtown Development:

Wismer stated the following for the month of January:

- 1 Event
- Attendance - 879
- Volunteer Hours – 163
- 7 New businesses – 7 Jobs Created
- 0 Business Closings
- 2 Business Relocations
- 0 Building permits
- 2 Properties sold - \$757,000
- 3 Rehab - \$53,051

City Hall Update:

Wismer stated the following:

- City Hall construction is not making much progress due to rain.
- Wayfinding Signs – A total of 7 will be installed, however cannot be installed at this time due to rain.
- Momma's Bourbon Grill – Graves who owns the Old Courthouse Tavern will be opening a new restaurant in this space and it will be a French Cajun theme.
- Engineering on the Stonewall Ave road diet is underway and was presented at the Mayor and Council retreat February 13-14.
- The City is continuing to work on the design for the Bus Barn. Jefferson Brown Architects is working on the interior and exterior of the building.

HDF Museum Report:

- Lee stated that January was a slow month.
- Lee attended the Georgia Association of Museums Annual Conference in Columbus, GA. Lee stated that he had discussions with contractors that make signs for the museums, and also met with a contractor that has special equipment that can be placed in the cemetery that gives information about the cemetery; like a kiosk. The cost is around \$1,500.
- Lee stated that he is working on an upcoming event on March 21 – "Irish Roots of Margaret Mitchell 2nd Edition" book signing by David O'Connell
- Lee purchased 4 – 5 tickets to the Oakland Cemetery gravestone restoration class in May. Sent letter to Historical Society in regard to doing minor maintenance to the headstones in the cemetery. Lee stated that the money earned from the Cemetery Walk could be used for this project. Wismer stated that this was discussed at the Mayor and Council Retreat and it was suggested to team up with others that may be interested in cemetery restoration.
- Lee also stated that someone donated a "spinning wheel".
- Living History Day is April 18. Wismer stated that Southern Conservation Trust has an Earth Day event that day as well.

Financial Report:

Bush gave the financial report for the month of January.

New Business:

Appointment of DDA board member to Main Street. Wyatt was appointed to Main Street and will attend the meeting scheduled for March 17.

Executive Session – Discuss on acquisition or sale of real estate.

Motion by Musselwhite and seconded by Burch to go into Executive Session. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Burch and seconded by Musselwhite to come out of Executive Session. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Wyatt and seconded by Vano to authorize Chair to sign purchase agreement in the amount of \$200,000 for the purchase of property located at 119 S. Glynn Street.

Open Discussion:

Wismer presented a small business incentive plan for DDA to consider. Following discussion, the board requested more info, which Wismer will email separately.

Adjourn:

Motion by Burch and seconded by Lester to adjourn the February 19, 2020 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce R. Waits